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## LOG OF MEETING

**SUBJECT:** Extension Cord and Appliance Cord Protection.

**DATE:** July 22, 1996

**PLACE:** Room 611F  
East West Towers

**DATE OF LOG ENTRY:** July 23, 1996

**SOURCE OF LOG ENTRY:** William H. King, Jr., ESEE *Wm King*

**CPSC PARTICIPANT:** William H. King, Jr., ESEE

**NON-CPSC PARTICIPANTS:**

Owen Jackson, Technology Research Corporation  
Ned Schiff, Technology Research Corporation  
Maureen Cislo, Product Safety Letter

**SUMMARY:**

The meeting was requested by Technology Research Corporation to discuss further a new electrical safety product developed by the company. This company previously visited CPSC staff regarding this subject on May 1, 1996.

During the latest meeting, Mr. Jackson introduced a new member of his company's staff, Mr. Schiff, who will be involved in the development of markets for the company's "Fire Shield" product line of cords. These cords come with a built-in circuit interruption feature in the event of a cord insulation fault that could lead to a fire. Mr. Schiff asked a number of basic questions about how the CPSC operates. For example, he inquired regarding how CPSC generally obtains injury and accident data; how and when the CPSC staff prepares and supports changes to electrical safety standards and codes, and how CPSC hazard projects are conceived and made into staff activities.

Mr. King provided a brief overview of sources for reports of electrical fire and shock hazards. Mr. King described briefly several recent staff activities involving commenting and proposing improvements to electrical voluntary safety standards. These included commenting on an electrical code proposal to limit power of hair dryers to prevent overloading household circuits, and proposing new requirements for electrical connectors. Mr. King indicated that projects are decided by the Commission when the agency operating plan is adopted based on information organized by the staff. For example, the staff is assembling information regarding counter top cooking appliances for consideration as a project activity in the near future.

The representatives indicated that they would be requesting information from CPSC regarding incidents involving a number of

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different electrical consumer products to evaluate the possible application of their "Fire Shield" product in order to lessen the chance of fire. Mr. King indicated to them that they should contact the CPSC injury information clearinghouse in this regard.